GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:703
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2002
NATIONAL POLICY ON WORLD TRADE TREATY
V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to evolve a national policy on the negotiations to replace the present world trade treaty on agro - exports and subsidies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) & (b): India`s position and approach in the on-going negotiations under the Agreement on Agriculture of the World Trade Organisation is based on wide-ranging consultations held by the Government from time to time with the Governments of States and Union Territories, representatives of political parties, farmers` associations, eminent agro-economists and research institutes, and the deliberations of the Expert Group on Agriculture constituted by the Government in May 2002.In these consultations, there is a general convergence of views on the need to safeguard the interests of our agricultural production and farmers during the negotiations by, inter alia, taking into account food security and livelihood concerns of developing countries like India, providing appropriate levels of tariff protection on imports, and through increased market access for products of export interest to us.